



Maliit na Binhi: Ang Kuwento ni Wangari Maathai

A Tiny Seed: The Story of Wangari Maathai

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 Tagalog / English



Sa isang nayon sa libis ng Bundok Kenya sa Silangang Africa, may isang batang babaeng nagtrabaho sa bukid kasama ng kanyang ina. Wangari ang pangalan niya.

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In a village on the slopes of Mount Kenya in East Africa, a little girl worked in the fields with her mother. Her name was Wangari.



Mahilig lumabas si Wangari. Sa gulayan ng kanyang pamilya, hinughog niya ang lupa gamit ang kanyang matsete. Nagpunla siya ng maliliit na buto sa mainit na lupa.

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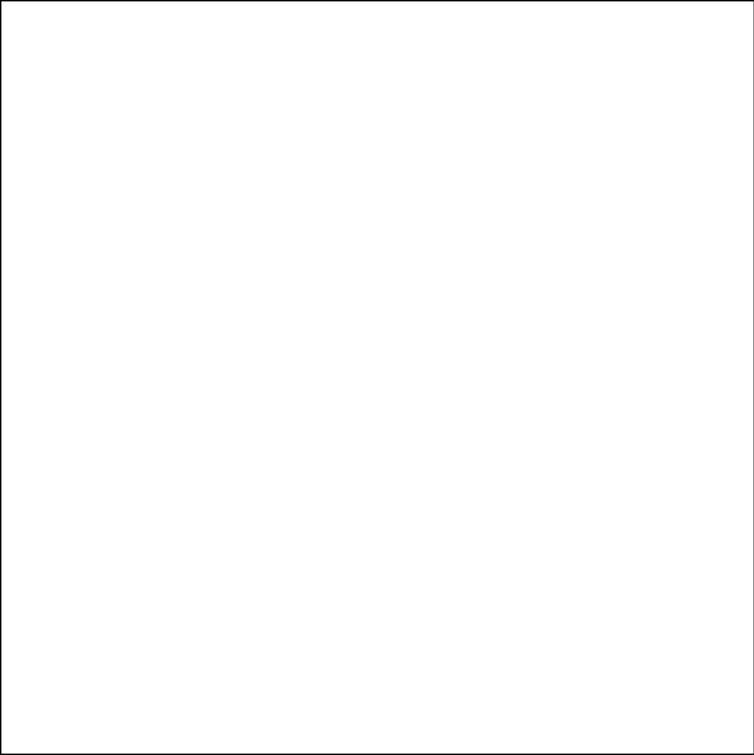
Wangari loved being outside. In her family's food garden she broke up the soil with her machete. She pressed tiny seeds into the warm earth.



Ang paborito niyang panahon ay ang dapit-hapon. Alam ni Wangari na oras na para umuwi kapag masyado nang madilim para tingnan ang mga halaman. Sinusundan niya ang makipot na daan sa kabukiran at binabagtas ang ilog sa kanyang pag-uwi.

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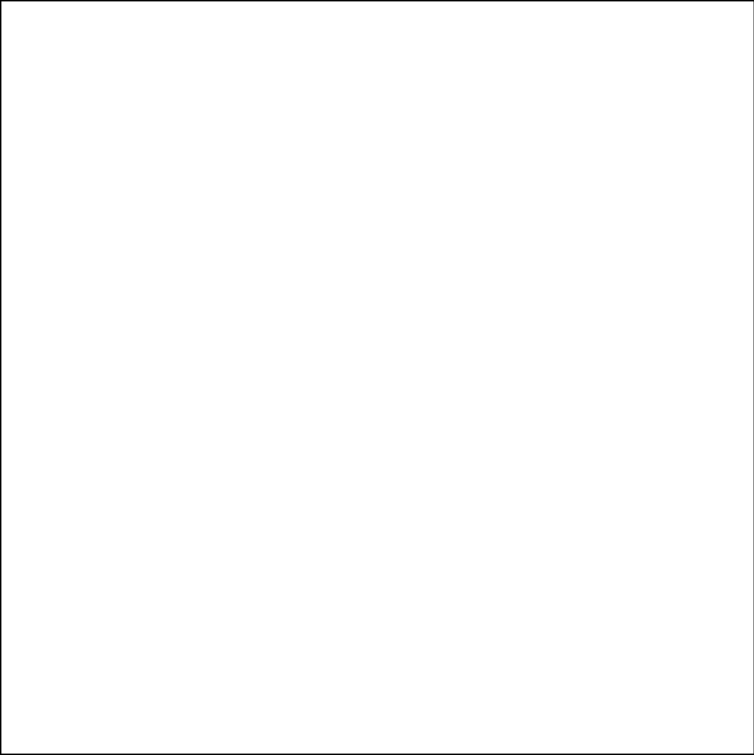
Her favourite time of day was just after sunset. When it got too dark to see the plants, Wangari knew it was time to go home. She would follow the narrow paths through the fields, crossing rivers as she went.



Matalino si Wangari at sabik siyang pumasok sa eskuwela. Ngunit nais ng ina at ama niya na manatili siya sa bahay at tulungan sila. Noong siya ay pitong taong gulang, hinikayat ng kuya niya ang kanilang mga magulang na papasukin siya sa eskuwela.

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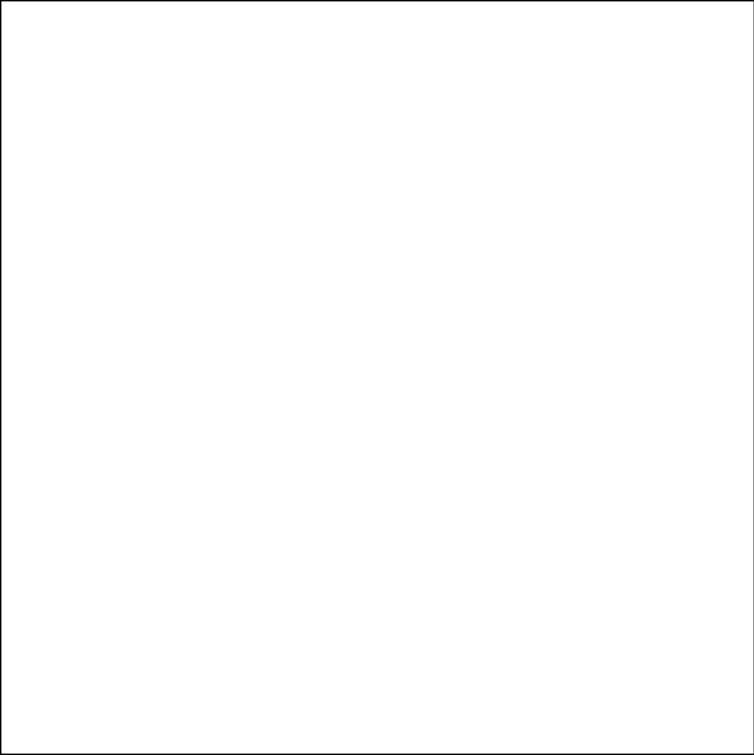
Wangari was a clever child and couldn't wait to go to school. But her mother and father wanted her to stay and help them at home. When she was seven years old, her big brother persuaded her parents to let her go to school.



Mahilig siyang matuto! Dumami ng dumami ang natutunan ni Wangari sa bawat librong binasa niya. Sa sobrang husay niya sa kanyang pag-aaral, inimitahan siyang mag-aral sa Estados Unidos ng Amerika. Nasiyahan si Wangari! Marami pa siyang gustong malaman tungkol sa mundong ginagalawan niya.

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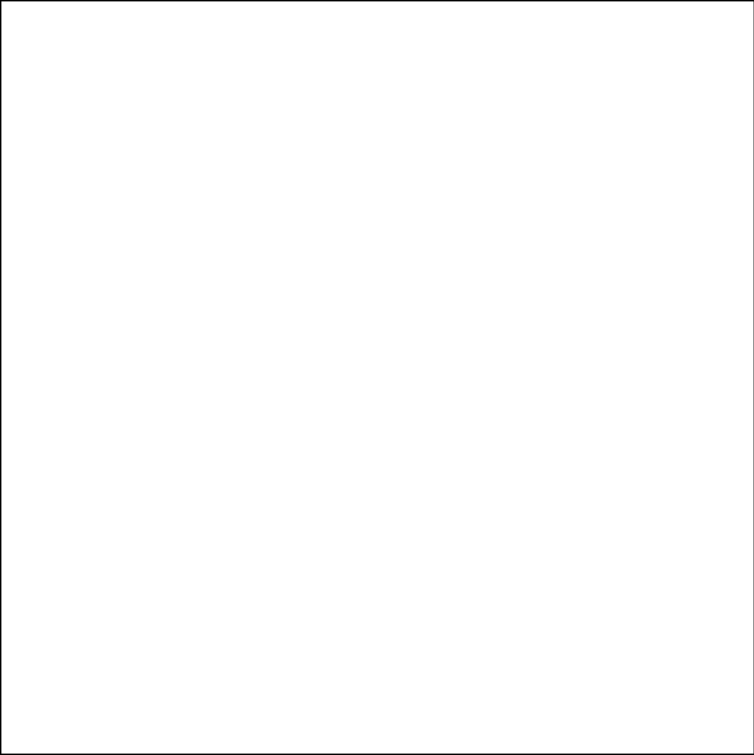
She liked to learn! Wangari learnt more and more with every book she read. She did so well at school that she was invited to study in the United States of America. Wangari was excited! She wanted to know more about the world.



Maraming bagong natutunan si Wangari sa pamantasan sa Amerika. Pinag-aralan niyang husto ang mga halaman at kung paano sila lumaki. At naalala niya kung paano siya lumaki: nakipaglaro siya sa kanyang mga kuya sa ilalim ng mga puno ng magagandang kagubatan sa Kenya.

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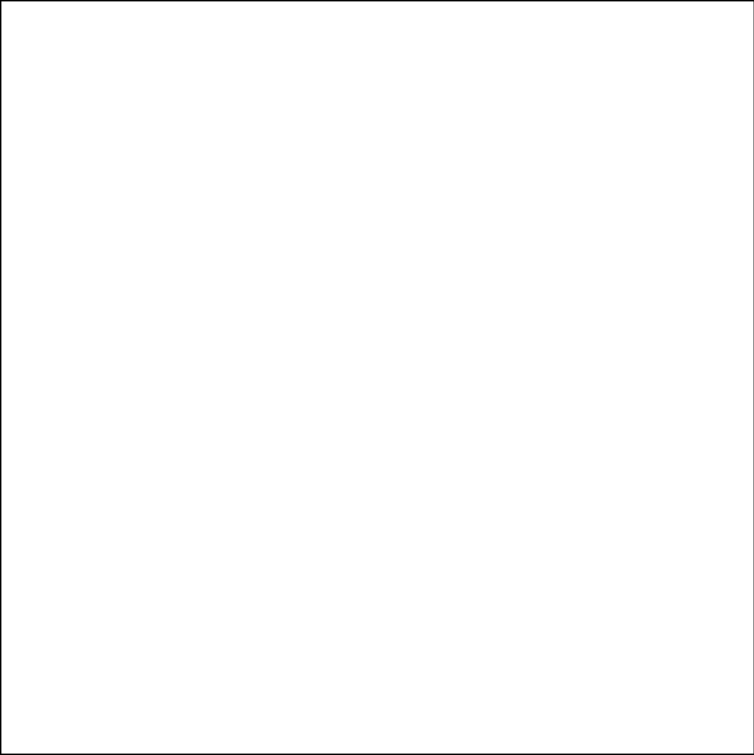
At the American university Wangari learnt many new things. She studied plants and how they grow. And she remembered how she grew: playing games with her brothers in the shade of the trees in the beautiful Kenyan forests.



Habang dumarami ang kaalaman niya, mas napagtanto niya na mahal niya ang kanyang mga kababayan sa Kenya. Gusto niyang maging masaya sila at malaya. Habang dumarami ang kaalaman niya, mas naalala niya ang kanyang Aprikanong tahanan.

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The more she learnt, the more she realised that she loved the people of Kenya. She wanted them to be happy and free. The more she learnt, the more she remembered her African home.



Nang matapos siya sa kanyang pag-aaral, bumalik siya sa Kenya. Ngunit nagbago na ang kanyang bayan. Dumukwang ang mga bukid sa kahabaan ng lupa. Walang panggatong para sa pagluluto ang mga kababaihan. Naghihirap ang mga tao at gutom ang mga bata.

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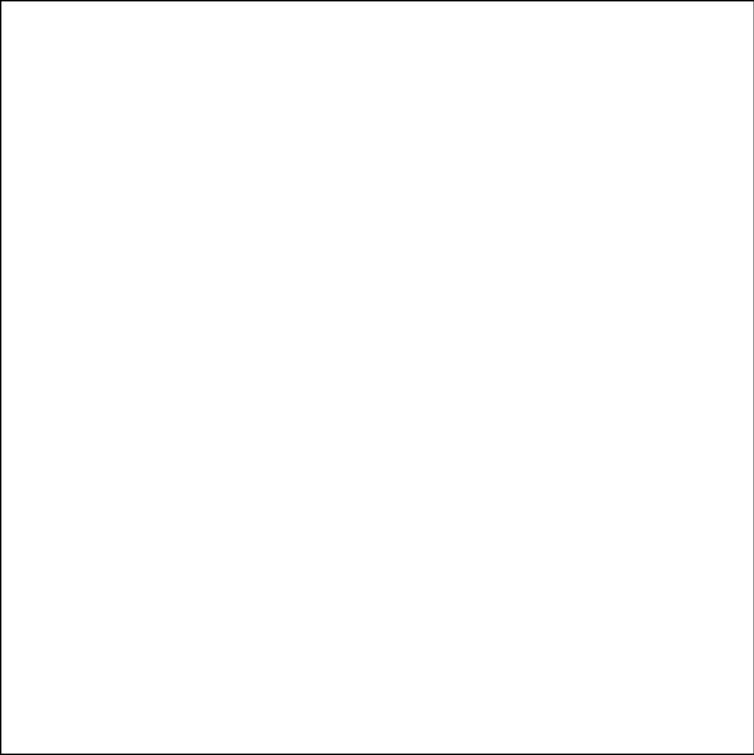
When she had finished her studies, she returned to Kenya. But her country had changed. Huge farms stretched across the land. Women had no wood to make cooking fires. The people were poor and the children were hungry.



Alam ni Wangari kung ano ang dapat gawin. Tinuruan niya ang mga kababaihang magtanim ng puno mula sa mga binhi. Ibinenta ng mga kababaihan ang mga puno at ginamit ang kanilang pinagkakitaan para alagaan ang kanilang pamilya. Natuwa ang mga kababaihan. Tinulungan sila ni Wangari na maging malakas at maniwala sa sarili nilang kapangyarihan.

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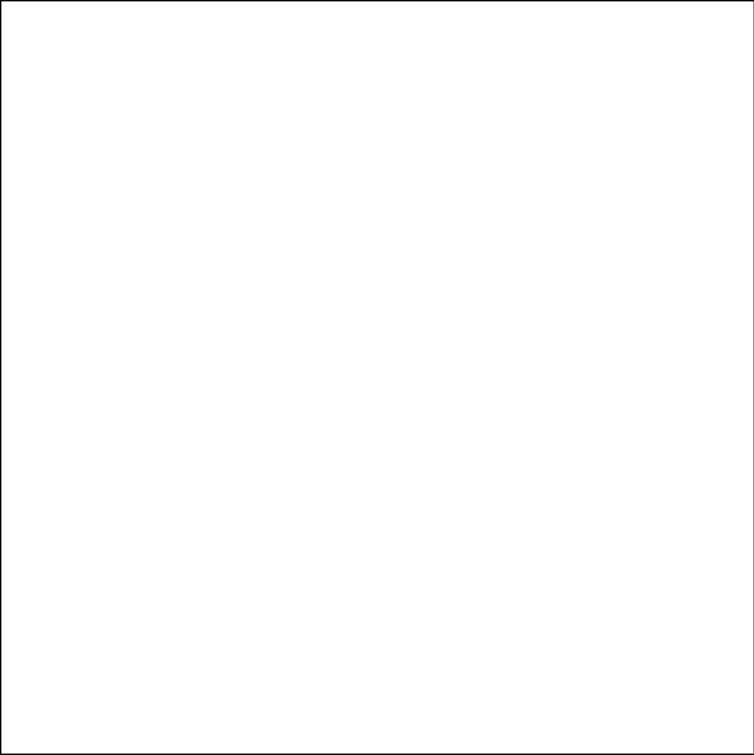
Wangari knew what to do. She taught the women how to plant trees from seeds. The women sold the trees and used the money to look after their families. The women were very happy. Wangari had helped them to feel powerful and strong.



Lumipas ang panahon at naging kagubatan ang mga puno, at umagos nang muli ang mga ilog. Lumaganap ang mensahe ni Wangari sa Aprika. Ngayon, milyung-milyong mga puno ang tumutubo salamat sa mga binhi ni Wangari.

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As time passed, the new trees grew into forests, and the rivers started flowing again. Wangari's message spread across Africa. Today, millions of trees have grown from Wangari's seeds.



Nagsumikap nang husto si Wangari. Napansin ito ng mga tao sa buong mundo at binigyan siya ng bantog na gantimpala. Ito ay ang Nobel Peace Prize, at siya ang kauna-unahang babaeng Aprikana na nakatanggap nito.

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Wangari had worked hard. People all over the world took notice, and gave her a famous prize. It is called the Nobel Peace Prize, and she was the first African woman ever to receive it.



Pumanaw si Wangari noong 2011, pero maaari natin siyang alalahanin sa tuwing makakakita tayo ng magandang puno.

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Wangari died in 2011, but we can think of her every time we see a beautiful tree.




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